



Exhibit 1

CLAIMS

- 1.(Three Times Amended) A lid for a utility box comprising:  
a member molded from plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sides and an outer edge,  
said outer edge extends around said member next to said lower side and which faces outward of said member,  
said lower side comprising a lower surface which is contiguous with said outer edge at least on two opposite sides of said outer edge,  
a plurality of spaced apart recesses having outer edges at said lower surface which are spaced from said outer edge of said member such that said lower surface surrounds said outer edges of said recesses,  
said recesses being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the plastic material and hence the quality of the lid,  
each of said recesses comprises a surface which extends from its said outer edges into said member,  
the area of said lower surface being greater than the total area surrounded by said outer edges of said recesses.

- 5.(Three Times Amended) A lid for a utility box, comprising:  
a member molded from plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sides and an outer edge,  
said outer edge extends around said member next to said lower side and which faces outward of said member,  
said lower side comprising a lower surface which is contiguous with said outer edge at least on two opposite sides of said outer edge,  
a plurality of spaced apart recesses having outer edges at said lower surface which are spaced from said outer edge of said

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member such that said lower surface surrounds said outer edges of said recesses,

said recesses being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the plastic material and hence the quality of the lid,

each of said recesses comprises a surface which extends from its said outer edges into said member,

said outer edges of each of said recesses comprise two spaced apart elongated outer edges and two spaced apart shorter outer edges,

said elongated edges of said recesses are generally parallel with each other,

said member has a given dimension along which said elongated edges of said recesses extend,

the lengths of said elongated edges of said recesses are greater than one half of said given dimension of said member,

said member of said lid has the strength sufficient to withstand a load of at least 8,000 pounds applied to said upper side when said lower side is supported by means placed around the perimeter of said member.

8.(Amended) The lid of claim 1, wherein:

said member of said lid is a solid member molded solely from a plastic material.

11.(Amended) The lid of claim 5, wherein:

said member of said lid is a solid member molded solely from a plastic material.

16.(Amended) The lid of claim 1, wherein:

said [purlaity]plurality of recesses comprises at least three recesses,

said outer edges of each of two of said plurality of recesses comprise two spaced apart elongated outer edges and two spaced apart shorter outer edges,

one of said plurality of recesses has dimensions in two directions transverse to each other which are greater than the dimensions of said shorter outer edges of either of said two recesses.

17.(Amended) The lid of claim 15, wherein:

said member of said lid is a solid member molded solely from a plastic material,

said upper side comprises an upper surface,

an upper recess formed in said upper surface of said lid at least partially in alignment with said second recess.

18.(Twice Amended) A lid for a utility box, comprising:

a member molded from plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sides and an outer edge,

said outer edge comprising a first pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite directions from each other outward from said member and a second pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite direction from each other outward from said member,

said first pair of outer edges being transverse to said second pair of opposite edges,

said lower side comprising a lower surface [having an outer edge]which extends to and is contiguous with said first and second pairs of outer edges,

a plurality of spaced apart recesses formed in said lower surface and spaced from said outer edge of said lower surface and from said upper side,

said recesses being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the plastic material and hence the quality of the lid,

one of said recesses comprising two spaced apart elongated edges and two spaced apart shorter edges,

said lower surface having a given dimension along which said elongated edges extend,

the lengths of said elongated edges of said one recess are greater than one half of said given dimension of said surface,

said member of said lid has the strength sufficient to withstand a load of at least 8,000 pounds applied to said upper side when said lower side is supported by means placed around the perimeter of said member.

23.(Three Times Amended) A lid for a utility box, comprising:

a member molded solely from a single type of plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sidesand an outer edge,

said outer edge comprising a first pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite directions from each other outward from said member and a second pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite direction from each other outward from said member,

said first pair of outer edges being transverse to said second pair of opposite edges,

said lower side comprising a lower surface [having an outer edge]which extends to and is contiguous with said first and second pairs of outer edges,

first and second spaced apart recesses, generally parallel to each other, formed in said lower surface and spaced from said outer edge of said lower surface and from said upper side,

said recesses [begin]being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the plastic material and hence the quality of the lid,

each of said first and second recesses comprising two spaced apart elongated edges and two spaced apart shorter edges with two generally flat surfaces extending along said two elongated edges respectively and which join each other along a line such that said two surfaces and a plane extending across said recess at said lower surface define a triangle as seen in cross-sections transverse to said elongated edges with said line located between said upper and lower surfaces,

the dimensions of said lower surface between said first and second spaced apart recesses being greater than the dimensions of said shorter edges of either of said first and second recesses.

25.(Twice Amended) A lid for a utility box, comprising:

a member molded solely from a single type of plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sides and an outer edge,

said outer edge comprising a first pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite directions from each other outward from said member and a second pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite direction from each other outward from said member,

said first pair of outer edges being transverse to said second pair of opposite edges,

said lower side comprising a lower surface [having an outer edge]which extends to and is contiguous with said first and second pairs of outer edges,

a plurality of spaced apart recesses formed in said lower surface and spaced from said outer edge of said lower surface and from said upper side,

said recesses being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the plastic material and hence the quality of the lid,

one of said recesses comprising two spaced apart elongated edges and two spaced apart shorter edges,

a second of said plurality of recesses has dimensions in two directions transverse to each other each of which is greater than the dimensions of said shorter edges of said one recess,

said member of said lid has the strength sufficient to withstand a load of at least 8,000 pounds applied to said upper side when said lower side is supported by means placed around the perimeter of said member.

26.(Twice Amended) A lid for a utility box, comprising:

a member molded solely from a single type of plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sidesand an outer edge,

said outer edge extends around said member next to said lower side and which faces outward of said member,

said lower side comprising a lower surface [having an outer edge,]which is contiguous with said outer edge at least on two opposite sides of said outer edge,

at least one recess formed in said lower surface and spaced from said outer edge of said lower surface and from said upper side,

said one recess being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the plastic material and hence the quality of the lid,

said one recess comprising two spaced apart elongated edges and two spaced apart shorter edges with two generally flat surfaces extending along said two elongated edges respectively and which join each other along a line such that said two surfaces and a plane extending across said recess at said lower surface define a triangle as seen in cross-sections transverse to said elongated edges with said line located between said upper and lower surfaces,

said lower side having a given dimension along which said elongated edges of said recess extend,

the lengths of each of said elongated edges are equal to a substantial portion of the length of said given dimension.

31.(Twice Amended) A lid for a utility box, comprising:

a member molded solely from a single type of plastic material and having spaced apart upper and lower sides and an outer edge,

said outer edge comprising a first pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite directions from each other outward from said member and a second pair of spaced apart outer edges which face in opposite direction from each other outward from said member,

said first pair of outer edges being transverse to said second pair of opposite edges,

said lower side comprising a lower surface [having an outer edge]which extends to and is contiguous with said first and second pairs of outer edges,

first and second spaced apart recesses, generally parallel to each other, formed in said lower surface and spaced from said outer edge of said lower surface and from said upper side,

said recesses being formed during the molding process to enhance curing of the material and hence the quality of the lid,

each of said first and second recesses comprising two spaced apart elongated edges and two spaced apart shorter edges with two generally flat surfaces extending along said two elongated edges respectively and which join each other along a line such that said two surfaces and a plane extending across said recess at said lower surface define a triangle as seen in cross-sections transverse to said elongated edges with said line located between said upper and lower surfaces.